



## Who we work with

GWN works with a number of women's networks across the public sector.

You can find a list of agencies with women's networks on GWN's website: [www.gwn.govt.nz/our-work/agencies-with-womens-networks](http://www.gwn.govt.nz/our-work/agencies-with-womens-networks).

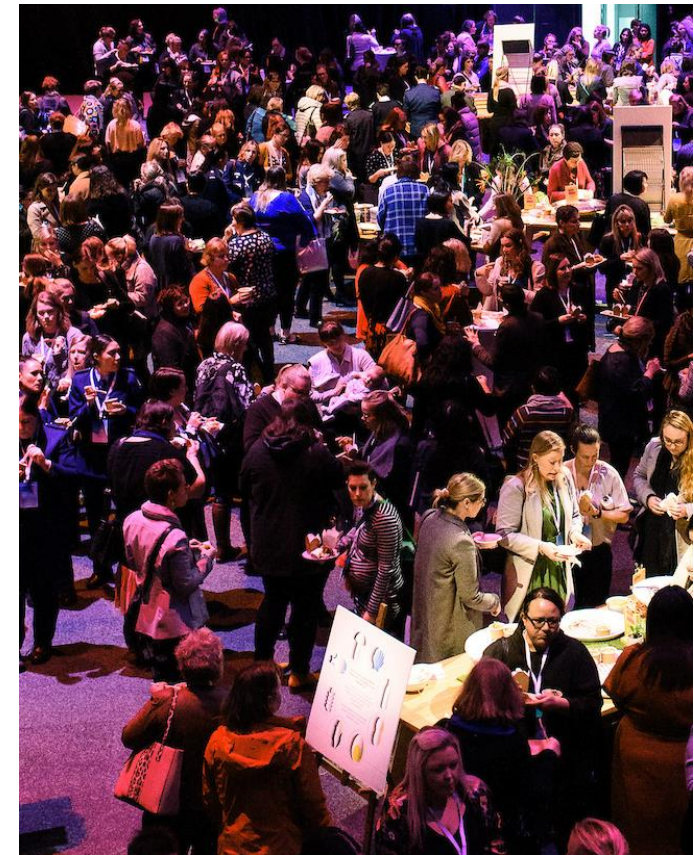


GOVERNMENT  
WOMEN'S NETWORK  
TE AKA WĀHINE O AOTEAROA  
WOMEN ACHIEVING THEIR POTENTIAL



## GWN's Achievements

- > Diversity Works 2016 – Highly Commended: GWN in the Emerging Diversity and Inclusion category
- > Since 2016, seven Women in Public Sector Summits with 3,500+ registrations have been held in Wellington and Auckland benefiting women's professional development, networks, and their confidence to progress their careers
- > 1,700+ people across New Zealand receive direct communications from GWN
- > More networks are forming, and more informed women are making progress in their careers
- > Cross-agency relationships are strengthened
- > Regular network events with inspiration, information, and resources shared
- > Valuable connections made with private sector networks enable collaboration opportunities
- > The Employee Led Networks website is established and managed by GWN as a portal for networks within the public sector.
- > Key dates and events relevant to women's achievements are promoted and celebrated
- > Strong social media presence and following on LinkedIn.



## Find out more

[www.gwn.govt.nz](http://www.gwn.govt.nz)

[www.employee networks.govt.nz](http://www.employee networks.govt.nz)

[linkedin.com/company/gwnnz](https://linkedin.com/company/gwnnz)

[enquiries@gwn.govt.nz](mailto:enquiries@gwn.govt.nz)

**New Zealand Government**

Feb 2020

*An introduction to*  
**Government  
Women's Network**

Women achieving their potential

## About GWN

**Government Women's Network (GWN) launched in 2016 with the goal of connecting government women within and across agencies to achieve their potential.**

Since 2016, more women's networks have formed and they are actively running professional networking and educational events, sharing skills, experiences and information, and providing peer support. All people working in the public sector are welcome to join their agency's women's networks and participate in their activities and events and/or join the GWN mailing list.



## GWN: shaping a future for public sector women

### *Our vision*

New Zealand's public service values all women and champions and empowers them to realise their full potential.

### *Our purpose*

We leverage the wealth and value of women's experiences and knowledge through our networks to address issues for public sector women including imbalances in gender roles, advancement, and leadership in the public service.

Using our collective strength, we help achieve the potential of a diverse and inclusive public service by ensuring greater visibility, support, and connectivity for women's networks across all agencies.

## How we work

We work with and multiply the efforts of public sector women's networks and connect women and networks with non-Government networks and stakeholders.

A Steering Committee made up of public sector women from different agencies provides guidance and oversight for our work. GWN's Sponsor is Naomi Ferguson, Commissioner and Chief Executive, Inland Revenue.

GWN is supported by public sector Chief Executives who are working together towards ensuring the public sector workforce is:

- > diverse and inclusive
- > reflects the communities we serve, and
- > values diversity.

## Regional networks

GWN is represented in Auckland by Auckland GWN Te Aka Wāhine o Tāmaki and in the South Island by Southern GWN Te Aka Wāhine o Te Waipounamu. The regional networks allow GWN to have a wider geographic reach and provide regionally relevant news and opportunities for members in these areas.

Auckland GWN's working group and Southern GWN's committee are comprised of volunteer members from agencies in these areas, led by a regional Chair. Both regional groups work closely with GWN to align their work with GWN's overarching goals and priorities for public sector women.

## Network representatives

Network Reps are the link between their agency and GWN. They help share GWN's messages and provide valuable feedback to GWN that can be communicated to relevant agencies like SSC or the Ministry for Women.



## Our strategic priorities

GWN's strategic priorities are to:

- > Connect and support more women's networks and help them use their influence
- > Advance public sector goals for women
- > Celebrate wāhine Māori and women's achievements
- > Increase professional and personal development
- > Ensure GWN is sustainable
- > Support other employee networks.

Focusing on these six priorities will strengthen GWN and women's networks in the public sector and ensure positive outcomes for individual women.

## Benefits of GWN's work

- > Public sector women are more informed, inspired, productive, and having more impact
- > Professional cross-agency and cross-sector contacts are made expanding ideas, solutions, opportunities and collaborations
- > Information and collateral are reused for consistency and waste reduction
- > Increased development offerings and access for Women in Public Sector Summits, Leadership Development Centre and IPANZ events
- > Political dialogue is enhanced, influencing advice, culture, and attitudes
- > Some women have made career progress as a result of their involvement with GWN
- > Other diversity networks are established and supported with information and advice from GWN.